

Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

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FM AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6035

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FOR EA/IMS - AMBASSADOR-DESIGNATE UNDERHILL

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OGEN MY

SUBJECT: YOUR PRESENTATION OF CREDENTIALS

1. FOLLOWING IS DRAFT TEXT OF POSSIBLE STATEMENT ON PRESENTATION OF CREDENTIALS:

2. QUOTE. YOUR MAJESTY, I AM GREATLY HONORED TO HAVE BEEN APPOINTED TO REPRESENT THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT AS AMBASSADOR TO MALAYSIA, AND IT IS WITH PLEASURE THAT I PRESENT TO YOU MY LETTERS OF CREDENCE AND THE LETTERS OF RECALL OF MY PREDECESSOR. I SHOULD LIKE TO AVAIL MYSELF OF THIS OPPORTUNITY TO CONVEY TO YOUR MAJESTY, ON BEHALF OF THE GOVERNMENT AND THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, OUR VERY BEST WISHES AND OUR SINCERE HOPE THAT THE CORDIAL RELATIONS THAT HAVE EXISTED BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES SINCE MERDEKA WILL BE PRESERVED AND FURTHER STRENGTHENED IN THE YEARS TO COME.

3. AS YOUR MAJESTY MAY KNOW, I PREVIOUSLY SERVED IN MALAYSIA, FROM OCTOBER 1961 TO MID-1963, DEPARTING ON THE EVE OF THE FORMATION OF THE MALAYSIAN FEDERATION. BUT I CONTINUED WITH GREAT INTEREST TO FOLLOW DEVELOPMENTS IN MALAYSIA AND SOUTHEAST ASIA DURING SUBSEQUENT ASSIGNMENTS IN WASHINGTON, MANILA AND SEOUL.

4. THE PAST DECADE HAS FULFILLED THE DREAMS OF THOSE WHO WERE CONFIDENT THE MALAYSIAN FEDERATION WOULD SURVIVE ITS BIRTH AND EARLY GROWING PAINS; INDEED IT IS A MODEL AMONG THE COUNTRIES

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THAT HAVE EMERGED FROM COLONIAL STATUS INTO FULL SELF-GOVERN-

MENT BECAUSE OF ITS UNIQUE RECORD OF POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC STABILITY.

5. THROUGHOUT THIS PERIOD, MY PREDECESSORS HAVE MADE EVERY EFFORT TO MAINTAIN HARMONIOUS RELATIONS BETWEEN OUR TWO GOVERNMENTS, AND I HOPE YOUR MAJESTY WILL AGREE THAT THEY HAVE SUCCEEDED. I PLEDGE THAT I WILL PURSUE THAT SAME GOAL.

6. I DO NOT EXPECT TO FIND THAT A DIFFICULT TASK BECAUSE IN FACT OUR GOALS ARE SO SIMILAR. THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT, LIKE YOUR MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT, WISHES TO SEE THE INDIVIDUAL STATES OF SOUTHEAST ASIA DEVELOP THEIR OWN BROAD-BASED, SELF-RELIANT, POLITICAL-ECONOMIC-SOCIAL SYSTEMS IN THE FREEST POSSIBLE ATMOSPHERE. CONCURRENTLY WE ARE HEARTENED BY MANY SIGNS OF PROGRESSIVE REGIONAL COOPERATION AMONG SOUTHEAST ASIAN NATIONS IN PEACEFUL ENTERPRISES LEADING TO THE RESOLUTION OF HISTORIC ISSUES AND THE BUILDING OF A HABIT OF CONSULTATION ON ALL MATTERS OF MUTUAL INTEREST. THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT HAS NOTED WITH ADMIRATION THE LEADING ROLE PLAYED BY YOUR MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT IN THE ENCOURAGEMENT AND EXPANDED ACTIVITIES OF THE REGION'S MOST PROMISING INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION, ASEAN. WE SEE ASEAN AS A HEALTHY ASIAN CREATION WHICH SHOULD GROW WITHOUT EXTERNAL INTERFERENCE EITHER AS REGARDS ITS SPEED OR DIRECTION.

7. YOUR MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT IS AWARE, FROM THE STATEMENTS AND THE ACTIONS OF MY PRESIDENT AND MY GOVERNMENT, THAT THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT STILL PLANS TO PLAY ITS HISTORIC BALANCING ROLE IN ASIA. THE FORMS MAY CHANGE, THE NAMES MAY ALTER, BUT THE CONTRIBUTIONS MADE BY AMERICAN TRADE, INVESTMENT AND TECHNOLOGICAL SKILLS TO THE PROGRESS AND PROSPERITY OF MALAYSIA AND OF THIS REGION WILL CONTINUE. THIS ROLE, MY GOVERNMENT BELIEVES, IS NOT INCOMPATIBLE WITH YOUR OWN, FURTHER UNDERLINING THAT MY MISSION WILL LARGELY BE ONE OF REINFORCING OUR HIGHLY CONGENIAL AND CONVERGENT AIMS.

8. FINALLY, YOUR MAJESTY, I AM HAPPY TO BE BACK IN MALAYSIA BECAUSE OF THE OPPORTUNITY TO MEET AGAIN MANY PERSONAL FRIENDS FROM MY EARLIER ASSIGNMENT. THEY ARE TO BE FOUND AMONG ALL THE CULTURES AND COMMUNITIES WHICH MAKE MALAYSIA ONE OF THE MOST LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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INTERESTING COUNTRIES IN SOUTHEAST ASIA. THEIR WARMTH AND HOSPITALITY ARE FAMILIAR TO ME, EVEN AS THEY ARE TO THE INCREASING NUMBERS OF AMERICANS WHO NOW VISIT, LIVE AND WORK IN MALAYSIA. I AM NOT ONLY PERSONALLY DELIGHTED TO BE HERE TODAY BUT AM HONORED BEYOND MEASURE THAT I RETURN IN THIS CAPACITY, AND I AM CONFIDENT THAT MY NEW RESPONSIBILITIES BRING WITH THEM THE PROSPECT OF ONE OF THE HAPPIEST PERIODS OF MY LIFE. END QUOTE.

CHESLAW

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